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BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
IN AND FOR THE STATE OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR AGENCY  
ACTION OF MAR/REG OIL COMPANY FOR AN ORDER  
ESTABLISHING 160-ACRE DRILLING AND SPACING  
UNITS FOR HORIZONTAL WELLS IN AND THE  
PRODUCTION OF OIL, GAS, AND OTHER HYDROCARBONS  
FROM THE DESERT CREEK AND UPPER ISMAY  
FORMATIONS IN THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 19,  
TOWNSHIP 38 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, S.L.M.,  
SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH.

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DOCKET NO. 2010-024 CAUSE NO. 188-04  
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TAKEN AT: Department of Natural Resources  
1594 West North Temple, Room 1040  
Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: Wednesday, December 8, 2010

TIME: 9:24 a.m. to 10:29 a.m.

REPORTED BY: Michelle Mallonee, RPR

ATKINSON BAKER COURT REPORTING  
JOB #A403309

APPEARANCES

BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING:

Douglas E. Johnson, Chairman  
Ruland J. Gill, Jr.  
Jake Y. Harouny  
James T. Jensen  
Kelly L. Payne  
Samuel C. Quigley  
Jean Semborski (Excused)

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING:

John R. Baza, Director  
Dana Dean, Associate Director, Mining  
John Rogers, Associate Director, Oil and Gas  
Jim Springer, Public Information Officer  
Steve Schneider, Administrative Policy Coordinator  
Julie Ann Carter, Secretary to the Board

ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL:

Fred Donaldson - Division Attorney  
Steve Alder - Division Attorney  
Emily Lewis - Division Attorney  
Michael S. Johnson - Board Attorney

FOR MAR/REG Oil Company:

THOMAS W. CLAWSON, ESQ.  
VAN COTT, BAGLEY, CORNWALL & MCCARTHY  
36 South State Street  
Suite 1900  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

FOR THE DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING:

FRED DONALDSON, ESQ.  
UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE  
Natural Resources Division  
1594 West North Temple  
Suite 300  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

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1 Docket No. 2010-024 Cause No. 188-04

2 Wednesday, December 8, 2010

3 (The proceedings began at 9:24 a.m.)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. So now, let's go back  
5 to Agenda Item No. 3, which is Docket No. 2010-024 Cause  
6 No. 188-04 - In the Matter of the Request for Agency  
7 Action of MAR/REG Oil Company for an Order Establishing  
8 160-Acre Drilling and Spacing Units for Horizontal Wells  
9 in and the Production of Oil, Gas, and other Hydrocarbons  
10 from the Desert Creek and Upper Ismay Formations in the  
11 NE1/4 of Section 19, Township 38 South, Range 26 East,  
12 S.L.M., San Juan County, Utah.

13 Mr. Clawson, you are representing the  
14 petitioner?

15 MR. CLAWSON: Yes. Tom Clawson on behalf of  
16 MAR/REG Oil Company.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: And Mr. Donaldson, you are  
18 representing the Division?

19 MR. DONALDSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Clawson, would you please  
21 proceed.

22 MR. CLAWSON: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

23 Today MAR/REG is seeking 160-acre spacing for  
24 horizontal laterals into the Upper Ismay and the Desert  
25 Creek Formations in the Paradox Basin in San Juan County,

1       Utah. There is currently no spacing for the subject  
2       lands in this matter for vertical wells. There's only  
3       the Board's 640-acre temporary spacing rule for the  
4       horizontal wells.

5               This is a continuation of the September 22  
6       hearing. During that hearing, we introduced and  
7       presented land and legal testimony and exhibits. Some of  
8       those -- well, the land and legal exhibits were admitted  
9       into the record. But the hearing was continued to allow  
10      MAR/REG to clear up some of the confusion that was raised  
11      by its geologic testimony and exhibits.

12             I note that a couple of the Board members here  
13      today were not present at the September 22 hearing. And  
14      on behalf of MAR/REG, we hereby waive any objection to  
15      Board members Mr. Payne and Mr. Gill participating in  
16      this proceeding and in the Board's deliberation and  
17      decision.

18             CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: You'll be going through the  
19      geologic and the engineering information today. Is that  
20      correct?

21             MR. CLAWSON: To assist the Board members that  
22      weren't present at the September 22 hearing and also to  
23      help clarify some of the ownership issues that were  
24      raised at that hearing, we'll briefly go through some of  
25      the land and legal testimony and exhibits to bring them

1 up to speed.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay.

3 MR. GILL: Mr. Chairman, my understanding is  
4 that MAR/REG owns 75 percent of the leasehold rights in  
5 the subject lands, and that Questar Exploration &  
6 Production Company through its -- now its successor  
7 company, QEP Resources, owns a 25 percent interest in  
8 that lease. I am a former employee of that company and  
9 still have some interest with that company. Because of  
10 that, I have a potential conflict of interest. I don't  
11 know if that's a concern to anybody. But it might be  
12 best if I recuse myself from this hearing. I don't want  
13 to leave the room, and I'd really like to sit here and  
14 listen, but...

15 MR. CLAWSON: Mr. Chairman, we have no problem  
16 with Mr. Gill participating in the hearing.

17 MR. GILL: Let's just leave that as a question  
18 to the end. Can we do that? Can we leave that open to  
19 the end?

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Let's have Mr. Gill  
21 participate in the hearing. But he will, depending on  
22 what thing like look like, he will probably not  
23 participate in the deliberations of the Board, then.

24 MR. CLAWSON: That's up to the Board. So long  
25 as there's a quorum, we don't care.

1                   CHAIRMAN JOHNSON:   Yes.

2                   And Mr. Payne, you are comfortable?

3                   MR. PAYNE:   I'm comfortable if they're  
4                   comfortable.

5                   MR. JENSEN:   I would suggest on Ruland that the  
6                   decision of whether you participate, let's leave it until  
7                   all the evidence is in.  And then let's address the  
8                   question before we go into deliberation.  Unless there's  
9                   some real pressing reason to not have you involved in the  
10                  deliberation, I would like to see you be involved in the  
11                  deliberation.  But let's hold that until the end of the  
12                  evidence.

13                  MR. CLAWSON:   Okay.  And I can -- we've already,  
14                  you know, entered testimony regarding the ownership.  And  
15                  I can tell you -- and we will tell you again -- that QEP  
16                  is in favor of this horizontal well.  We're not in  
17                  opposition with the QEP.

18                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON:   Okay.  So let's see how  
19                  things go.

20                  Go ahead, then, Mr. Clawson.

21                  MR. CLAWSON:   Just to kind of set this up,  
22                  today's hearing is principally going to be about the  
23                  technical aspects of seeking spacing for the proposed  
24                  horizontal laterals.  We'll deal with the geology, the  
25                  reservoir engineering, and the economic analysis.



1           With that being said, I have one witness with me  
2           here today, Mr. Tariq Ahmad. He testified previously at  
3           the Board's hearing on September 22. And I'd note that  
4           he's still sworn in.

5           CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Yes.

6           MR. CLAWSON: With that, I proceed with my  
7           witness.

8           CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Donaldson.

9           MR. DONALDSON: I'm being told that Tariq was  
10          not sworn, that it was his brother.

11          MR. CLAWSON: Tariq was sworn at the hearing.  
12          He wasn't qualified as an expert witness.

13          CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Let's just do that to be  
14          sure, then.

15          Mr. Ahmad, can we swear you in, please.

16          MR. AHMAD: Sure.

17          THE REPORTER: You do solemnly swear the  
18          testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the  
19          whole truth, and nothing but the truth so help you God?

20          MR. AHMAD: I do.

21                       TARIQ AHMAD,

22                       having been first duly sworn,  
23                       was examined and testified as follows:

24                       DIRECT EXAMINATION

25           BY MR. CLAWSON:

1                   MR. CLAWSON: Would you please state your full  
2 name and address for the record.

3                   MR. AHMAD: Tariq Ahmad. 13495 South Hills  
4 Drive, Reno, Nevada, 89511.

5                   MR. CLAWSON: And what is your affiliation with  
6 MAR/REG?

7                   MR. AHMAD: I'm a petroleum engineer and a vice  
8 president for MAR/REG.

9                   MR. CLAWSON: And what are your principal  
10 responsibilities in that position?

11                  MR. AHMAD: I do all the engineering geology and  
12 operations for MAR/REG.

13                  MR. CLAWSON: You previously testified at the  
14 Board's September 22 hearing with respect to land and  
15 legal issues and mineral ownership. But today I'm going  
16 to ask you to testify as an expert witness regarding the  
17 geology of the reservoir engineering, volumetric  
18 calculations, and economic analysis.

19                  In that regard, would you please provide us with  
20 a brief explanation of your education and experience?

21                  MR. AHMAD: I graduated from the Colorado School  
22 of Mines in 1978 in petroleum engineering. And I worked  
23 as a petroleum engineer basically in reservoir  
24 engineering, giving oil and gas reserve evaluations. And  
25 as such, as a reservoir engineer, I was also trained to

1 do a lot of geological work, which is structural  
2 engineering and isopachs and volumetric reserves.

3 MR. CLAWSON: Are you certified by any  
4 professional organization?

5 MR. AHMAD: I'm certified with the Society of  
6 Petroleum Engineers as a Certified Petroleum Engineer,  
7 and I'm also registered as a Professional Engineer.

8 MR. CLAWSON: Are you familiar with the Upper  
9 Ismay and Desert Creek Formations beneath the subject  
10 lands?

11 MR. AHMAD: Yes, I am.

12 MR. CLAWSON: Have you previously testified as  
13 an expert witness before any oil and gas commissions?

14 MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

15 MR. CLAWSON: I'd ask that Mr. Ahmad be  
16 recognized as an expert for purposes of this hearing for  
17 geological interpretation, as well as petroleum  
18 engineering and economic analyses for the purposes of  
19 this hearing.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Donaldson.

21 MR. DONALDSON: Before we allow that, the  
22 Division would like to know -- or would like to ask  
23 Mr. Ahmad to elaborate on his geologic training.

24 MR. AHMAD: Sure. As a petroleum engineer, when  
25 you have to do reservoir engineering calculations, one of

1 the things that I was trained in my experience over the  
2 last 30 years was to prepare isopach maps and structural  
3 maps and do cross sections and such to come up with  
4 reserves for the various projects I worked on.

5 MR. DONALDSON: Have you had any courses on  
6 geologic -- geologic courses and things like that?

7 MR. AHMAD: Sure. When you go to the Colorado  
8 School of Mines as a petroleum engineer, one of the basic  
9 courses you have to take are two years of geology.

10 MR. DONALDSON: The Division will allow him to  
11 be designated, then.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Thank you.

13 Does the Board have any questions or objections  
14 to Mr. Ahmad?

15 Then we'll recognize him as an expert as you've  
16 requested, Mr. Clawson.

17 MR. CLAWSON: Thank you.

18 I'd refer you to Exhibit No. 1. And I'd note  
19 for the members, the Board members that weren't present  
20 at the September 22 hearing, this exhibit has already  
21 been admitted into the record.

22 Would you please tell us where the Squaw Canyon  
23 field is located?

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Clawson, can you tell us  
25 what the exhibit is that we're looking at?

1           MR. CLAWSON: It's Exhibit No. 1. And it is in  
2           the -- there's three sets of exhibits that have been  
3           filed. And maybe now is a good point to basically kind  
4           of explain how that works.

5           There were the original exhibits that were filed  
6           timely for the September 22 hearing. I think those were  
7           Exhibits 1 through 18.

8           CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay.

9           MR. CLAWSON: And Exhibit No. 1 is in that  
10          original package. At the hearing, we also filed revised  
11          Exhibits 5, 6, and 7 and a new Exhibit 19. We're not  
12          going to deal with any of those exhibits.

13          CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay.

14          MR. CLAWSON: And then more recently we filed  
15          revised exhibits. They were filed on November 8, and,  
16          you know -- so we're going to go through Exhibits 1, 2,  
17          3, 4 -- 4 is going to be new -- 16 and 17. We'll go  
18          through that. We're going to go through some of the  
19          original exhibits, and then we're going to go into the  
20          new package. Don't pay any attention to the exhibits  
21          that were filed at the September 22 hearing.

22          So back to Exhibit No. 1.

23          CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Which was filed for the  
24          September 22 hearing?

25          MR. CLAWSON: True. Correct.

1           MR. JENSEN: To refresh me and the Board, Tom,  
2           can you tell us the exhibits that were admitted in  
3           September?

4           MR. CLAWSON: Yes. I was going to.

5           They are 1 -- I have a list. It's 1, 2, 3, 18,  
6           which is the ownership interests, 16, which is the JOA,  
7           17, which is the Request for Agency Action. Those are  
8           the ones that were admitted.

9           CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. Were those admitted,  
10          or were they just reviewed?

11          MR. CLAWSON: They were admitted. I asked that  
12          they be admitted, and they were admitted.

13          CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. All right.

14          MR. JENSEN: So again, 1, 2, 3, 16, 17, and 18?

15          MR. CLAWSON: Correct.

16          CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. Go ahead.

17          MR. AHMAD: The Squaw Canyon field is located  
18          approximately about 15, 16 miles southeast of Blanding,  
19          Utah, in the Four Corners area.

20          MR. CLAWSON: And is it indicated on Exhibit  
21          No. 1?

22          MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is.

23          MR. CLAWSON: Now I'd refer you to Exhibit  
24          No. 2, which was also admitted at the previous hearing.

25          Can you please tell us what this exhibit is and

1       what it shows?

2               MR. AHMAD:   This exhibit shows the approximate  
3       location of the Squaw Canyon field in relation to the  
4       other fields in the general area.   And also shows how  
5       these fields are all trending northwest-southeast in  
6       their location.

7               MR. CLAWSON:   Can you tell us the nature of  
8       these fields?

9               MR. AHMAD:   These fields are all basically  
10      algal-mounds and carbonate buildups.

11              MR. CLAWSON:   And can you briefly tell us what  
12      an algal-mound and carbonate buildup is?

13              MR. AHMAD:   Those are basically little reef  
14      structures which are built in shallow shelf areas.   They  
15      are stratigraphic, they're not anticlines.   They are just  
16      simple little mounds.   And that's where the oil and gas  
17      is situated.

18              MR. CLAWSON:   Can you please provide us with a  
19      brief history of the Squaw Canyon field and its  
20      development?

21              MR. AHMAD:   Squaw Canyon field was discovered by  
22      MCOR Oil & Gas in 1979 by the drilling of the Federal  
23      1-19 well.   The well was drilled for the Upper Ismay;  
24      however, they completed it in the Desert Creek Formation.  
25      The well initially came in at about approximately 550

1       barrels of oil per day. And after that, the MCOR and  
2       some other companies also drilled some delineation wells,  
3       except there was only two wells which were placed on  
4       production.

5               MR. CLAWSON: Is MAR/REG the designated operator  
6       of the -- well, which wells does MAR/REG operate?

7               MR. AHMAD: MAR/REG operates the Federal 1-19  
8       and the Federal 3-19 wells.

9               MR. CLAWSON: And does the BLM and the Division  
10      of Oil, Gas and Mining recognize MAR/REG as the  
11      designated operator of those wells?

12              MR. AHMAD: Yes, they do.

13              MR. CLAWSON: Now I'd refer you to Revised  
14      Exhibit 19. That's in the November 8 package of  
15      exhibits.

16              Have you examined this exhibit and are you  
17      familiar with it?

18              MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

19              MR. CLAWSON: Can you please tell us what this  
20      exhibit is and what it shows?

21              MR. AHMAD: This exhibit gives a general history  
22      of each of the wells that was drilled in the Squaw Canyon  
23      field. And it gives you generally the dates and depths,  
24      and when those wells were drilled, and when they were  
25      plugged, and the status.



1                   MR. CLAWSON: Is the purpose of this exhibit  
2 simply to summarize the existing wells?

3                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is.

4                   MR. CLAWSON: Could you please explain the  
5 general purpose behind today's spacing proceeding?

6                   MR. AHMAD: What we want to do -- after we  
7 examined the Squaw Canyon field and we also read a report  
8 by the Utah Geological Survey, which was funded by the  
9 Department of Energy, wherein it stated that to develop  
10 these algal-mound fields, it would be more efficient to  
11 drill horizontal wells. And after we studied this field,  
12 we came to the conclusion that in order to efficiently  
13 drain and preserve the reserves in this area, we'd have  
14 to drill a horizontal well, both in the Desert Creek and  
15 Ismay Formations.

16                  MR. CLAWSON: What are MAR/REG's plans for the  
17 properties within the subject lands?

18                  MR. AHMAD: We want to keep the two existing  
19 wells on production and drill a third well with two  
20 horizontal legs.

21                  MR. CLAWSON: Will you continue producing the  
22 vertical wells?

23                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, we will.

24                  MR. CLAWSON: Will you co-mingle the production  
25 from the laterals and the horizontal well?

1                   MR. AHMAD:   Yes.

2                   MR. CLAWSON:   Now, I would refer you to Exhibit  
3                   No. 3, which is in the Board's first pile of exhibits and  
4                   was previously entered in this proceeding.

5                   Could you please tell us what this exhibit is  
6                   and what it shows?

7                   MR. AHMAD:   This exhibit gives the land  
8                   ownership in Section 19 and the surrounding areas.

9                   MR. CLAWSON:   MAR/REG's original Request for  
10                  Agency Action sought to suspend the Board's temporary  
11                  640-acre spacing for horizontal wells in the entire  
12                  Section 19.

13                  The Board may remember that at the September 22  
14                  hearing, it was suggested that we limit the effect of the  
15                  Request for Agency Action to just simply the northeast  
16                  quarter of Section 19.   And the Board entered an order  
17                  removing the effect of the Request for Agency Action to  
18                  all lands in Section 19, except the northeast quarter.  
19                  Just to clarify.   Everyone --

20                  MR. JENSEN:   That's correct.

21                  MR. CLAWSON:   -- knows the only lands we're  
22                  dealing with now, the subject lands, are simply the  
23                  northeast quarter of Section 19.

24                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON:   Okay.

25                  MR. CLAWSON:   Could you please tell us who owns

1       the minerals in the subject land?

2               MR. AHMAD:   The minerals are owned by the United

3       States government.

4               MR. CLAWSON:   And are the subject lands leased?

5               MR. AHMAD:   Yes.

6               MR. CLAWSON:   What's the -- is it a federal

7       lease?

8               MR. AHMAD:   It's Federal Lease U-40401.

9               MR. CLAWSON:   And does that lease also cover the

10       southwest quarter?

11              MR. AHMAD:   Yes, it does.

12              MR. CLAWSON:   Now I refer to Exhibit No. 18,

13       which was part of the original submission and has already

14       been previously entered in the record.

15              What is this exhibit and what does it show?

16              MR. GILL:   Hang on.   Let us get there, please.

17              MR. CLAWSON:   It's in the original --

18              MR. JENSEN:   Actually, I don't think it is.   Did

19       you add it at the September hearing?   It doesn't even

20       show it on the list of exhibits.

21              MR. PAYNE:   There's an Exhibit 18 filed on

22       September 8.   Is that it?

23              MR. JENSEN:   Okay.

24              CHAIRMAN JOHNSON:   Looks like we're almost

25       there.

1 MR. JENSEN: Got it. Thanks, Kelly.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Go ahead.

3 MR. CLAWSON: Thank you.

4 Could you please tell us what this exhibit is

5 and what it shows?

6 MR. AHMAD: This exhibit shows the ownership

7 interests in Section 19.

8 MR. CLAWSON: And it shows the ownership

9 interests throughout the entire section?

10 MR. AHMAD: Yes, it does.

11 MR. CLAWSON: Could you please tell us what the

12 ownership is within the northeast quarter of Section 19?

13 MR. AHMAD: Northeast quarter, QEP Energy owns

14 25 percent, and Nathan Oil, LLC, owns 75 percent.

15 MR. CLAWSON: Is there a stratigraphic -- well,

16 first of all, does Nathan Oil own 75 percent?

17 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

18 MR. CLAWSON: And how are Nathan Oil and MAR/REG

19 related?

20 MR. AHMAD: They are inter-related companies.

21 MR. CLAWSON: Is there a stratigraphic

22 limitation on the ownership in the northeast quarter?

23 MR. AHMAD: Yes, there is. The ownership is

24 100 feet below the stratigraphic equivalent of the well,

25 the Federal 1-19 drilled in that section.

1                   MR. CLAWSON: We'll come back to that in a  
2                   minute.

3                   And you testified that QEP Energy Company owns  
4                   the other 25 percent?

5                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, it does.

6                   MR. CLAWSON: Now I refer you and the Board to a  
7                   letter that was filed with the Board. It's not part of  
8                   our hearing exhibits, but it's a letter from Rhonda Ahmad  
9                   of -- I'm sorry. It's from Tariq, addressed to MAR/REG  
10                  Company. And it was filed on October 14, 2010.

11                  Can you please tell us what this -- well, have  
12                  you examined this letter and are you familiar with it?

13                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

14                  MR. CLAWSON: Can you please tell us what this  
15                  is?

16                  MR. AHMAD: It's a letter from Nathan Oil to  
17                  MAR/REG supporting this spacing order request.

18                  MR. CLAWSON: Does QEP also support MAR/REG's  
19                  request in spacing?

20                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, it does.

21                  MR. CLAWSON: And how do you know?

22                  MR. AHMAD: I've talked to QEP's land department  
23                  and gave them all the documentation. And they called me  
24                  back and they said they support this.

25                  MR. CLAWSON: Now, I'd refer you to Exhibit

1       No. 16, which has already been admitted to the record.

2               You need to -- The Board can't hear you. You  
3       need to sit closer to the mic.

4               MR. AHMAD: Yes.

5               MR. CLAWSON: Now I'd refer you to Exhibit 16,  
6       which was previously admitted.

7               Is there a voluntary pooling agreement covering  
8       the subject lands and the subject lease?

9               MR. AHMAD: Yes, there is.

10              MR. CLAWSON: And is that Exhibit 16?

11              MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is.

12              MR. CLAWSON: Okay. Now I'd refer you to  
13       Exhibit No. 21, which has not previously been admitted.  
14       It's part of the November 8 packet.

15              MR. AHMAD: Okay.

16              MR. CLAWSON: Does the Board --

17              MR. JENSEN: What was that again, Tom?

18              MR. CLAWSON: It's Exhibit No. 21, which is part  
19       of the packet that was filed on November 8th.

20              MR. JENSEN: Got it.

21              MR. CLAWSON: Have you examined the exhibit and  
22       are you familiar with it?

23              MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

24              MR. CLAWSON: Could you please tell us what this  
25       exhibit is?

1 MR. AHMAD: This is an exhibit to the Joint  
2 Operating Agreement that's in force for this lease.

3 MR. CLAWSON: And that would be Exhibit 16?

4 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

5 MR. CLAWSON: Is there a stratigraphic  
6 limitation established under the JOA?

7 MR. AHMAD: Yes, there is.

8 MR. CLAWSON: Can you please tell us what that  
9 is.

10 MR. AHMAD: It states on Exhibit A, paragraph 1  
11 that, "The oil and gas leasehold interests and the lands  
12 subject to this agreement are set forth on Exhibit 'A-1'  
13 attached hereto ... from the surface of said lands down  
14 to the stratigraphic equivalent of 100 feet below the  
15 total depth drilled," which is 5612 feet, "in the Federal  
16 1-19 well."

17 MR. CLAWSON: And this agreement covers the  
18 subject lands?

19 MR. AHMAD: Yes, it does.

20 MR. CLAWSON: Are the spaced intervals, as  
21 described in the Request for Agency Action, above the  
22 stratigraphic limitation created by this JOA and above  
23 the lower boundary of the ownership interests in the  
24 northeast quarter of Section 16?

25 MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

1                   MR. CLAWSON: Who owns the surface of the  
2 subject lands?

3                   MR. AHMAD: The federal government.

4                   MR. CLAWSON: Are they administered by the BLM?

5                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

6                   MR. CLAWSON: And does the BLM administer the  
7 federal minerals, as well?

8                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, they do.

9                   MR. CLAWSON: Now I refer you to Exhibit 17,  
10 which was previously admitted at the September hearing.

11                   Is this the Request for Agency Action that's  
12 been filed in this cause?

13                   MR. AHMAD: Yes.

14                   MR. CLAWSON: Towards the back of the Request,  
15 there's a list of names and addresses.

16                   Are these the owners, operators, and surface  
17 owners in the subject lands and in the remaining portions  
18 of Subject Section 19?

19                   MR. AHMAD: Yes.

20                   MR. CLAWSON: And was the Request mailed to  
21 everyone on the list?

22                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, it was.

23                   MR. CLAWSON: Now I'm going to refer you to  
24 Exhibit No. 4, which was not admitted at the September  
25 hearing and which is in the original packet of exhibits



1       that were filed.

2               Actually, at this point we're headed into the  
3       geology and the engineering.

4               CHAIRMAN JOHNSON:   Okay.   I think we're ready.

5               MR. CLAWSON:   Have you examined this exhibit,  
6       and are you familiar with it?

7               MR. AHMAD:   Yes, I have.

8               MR. CLAWSON:   Could you please tell us what this  
9       exhibit is?

10              MR. AHMAD:   It just basically gives you the  
11       geological setting and how the formations look in this  
12       area.

13              MR. CLAWSON:   Is this a stratigraphic column?

14              MR. AHMAD:   Yes.

15              MR. CLAWSON:   And where do the subject intervals  
16       sit with respect to the stratigraphy in the area?

17              MR. AHMAD:   They're within the Pennsylvanian of  
18       the Hermosa Group and the Paradox Formation.   You can see  
19       that right there in the Upper Ismay and the Desert Creek.

20              MR. CLAWSON:   What were the depositional  
21       environments for the Upper Ismay and Desert Creek  
22       Formations and the related features beneath the subject  
23       lands?

24              What were the depositional environments for the  
25       Upper Ismay and the Desert Creek?

1 MR. AHMAD: These were shallow shelf  
2 environment.

3 MR. CLAWSON: Are they carbonate features?

4 MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

5 MR. CLAWSON: And what acts as the seal -- and  
6 the carbonate features represent the reservoir rock?

7 MR. AHMAD: Yes, they do.

8 MR. CLAWSON: And what acts as the seal for the  
9 reservoir?

10 MR. AHMAD: There's some salt formations above  
11 and some shale formations --

12 MR. JENSEN: Could you ask him to speak -- I  
13 couldn't hear what --

14 MR. AHMAD: There's some salt formations above  
15 that, that act as a seal, and also some shale.

16 MR. CLAWSON: Are the spaced intervals beneath  
17 the subject lands these types of stratigraphic features?

18 MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

19 MR. CLAWSON: And what are the various  
20 parameters of the spaced intervals?

21 MR. AHMAD: Oh, these spaced intervals are  
22 basic, approximately -- the Desert Creek is about  
23 5550 feet, while the Ismay is about 5300 feet from the  
24 surface. I'm referring in this case to all the depths in  
25 the Federal 1-19 well.

1           The porosity in the Desert Creek is about 21  
2     percent, while the Upper Ismay is around 13 1/2 percent.  
3     The water saturation in both formations, around  
4     35 percent. Pretty low permeability, about one  
5     millidarcy.

6           The other important parameters are the zones are  
7     about 12 feet thick in the Desert Creek and about 25 feet  
8     in the Ismay. The gravity for the Desert Creek is 42.  
9     And it's a little higher in the Upper Ismay; it's about  
10    43.2 degrees API.

11          And the formations, both Desert Creek and the  
12    Ismay, underlie most of the northeast quarter of Section  
13    19.

14          MR. CLAWSON: Okay. Now, I'm going to refer you  
15    to Exhibit No. 20, which would be in the package of  
16    materials that were filed on November 8.

17          MR. AHMAD: Okay.

18          MR. CLAWSON: Have you examined this exhibit and  
19    are you familiar with its contents?

20          MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

21          MR. CLAWSON: Can you please tell us what this  
22    exhibit is?

23          MR. AHMAD: This is the final report that was  
24    written by the Utah Geological Survey in reference to  
25    shallow shelf carbonate buildups in the Paradox Basin.

1                   MR. CLAWSON: Can you use this report to further  
2 discuss the nature of an algal-mound and a carbonate  
3 build-up, please.

4                   MR. AHMAD: Yes. It describes, as you go  
5 through the report, it kind of describes what these  
6 algal-mounds basically look like and how -- if you look  
7 at on Exhibit 20-3, there's a couple of photographs of  
8 what these algal-mounds look like. They just, if you go  
9 off to the side, they just kind of basically disappear.  
10 And it is a visualization of what the formation looks  
11 like when you drill through it.

12                  MR. CLAWSON: Is the photo on Exhibit -- the  
13 fourth page of Exhibit No. 20 an example of an Ismay  
14 algal-mound?

15                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is. If you look at it, it's  
16 pretty -- gives -- it's a photograph that we can look at  
17 and come up with exactly what one of these algal-mounds  
18 looks like about 5000 below where we are trying to drill.  
19 So it gives you a pretty good idea of what we are looking  
20 at.

21                  MR. CLAWSON: Are they limited laterally in  
22 their scope?

23                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

24                  MR. CLAWSON: Okay. Now, I refer you to Revised  
25 Exhibit 10. And that would be in the package of

1 materials that were filed on November 8.

2 And I think past this point, we're only going to  
3 be dealing with materials out of that stack. Have you  
4 found them?

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Yes.

6 MR. CLAWSON: Okay.

7 Are you familiar with this exhibit?

8 MR. AHMAD: Yes, I am.

9 MR. CLAWSON: Can you tell us what it is?

10 MR. AHMAD: It says, "Structure Map of the Upper  
11 Ismay Carbonate," and gives you basically what the  
12 structure looks like for the Upper Ismay.

13 MR. CLAWSON: And how was it generated?

14 MR. AHMAD: I used well logs to generate this.

15 MR. CLAWSON: What type of well logs?

16 MR. AHMAD: Porosity logs.

17 MR. CLAWSON: Could you please tell us what this  
18 exhibit is -- I mean what this exhibit shows.

19 MR. AHMAD: It shows the general trend and  
20 extent of the Upper Ismay.

21 MR. CLAWSON: And the Upper Ismay is an  
22 algal-mound?

23 MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is.

24 MR. CLAWSON: And can you please tell us why  
25 this exhibit is important?

1           MR. AHMAD: It shows the extent, for example, on  
2       where -- in the northeast quarter section that we are  
3       asking for the horizontal well -- that the structure lies  
4       within that quarter section.

5           MR. CLAWSON: Is the proposed location of the  
6       horizontal well indicated on this map?

7           MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is. If you look on the map  
8       itself, it's a little circle there with "LOC" on it.

9           MR. CLAWSON: Okay. Now I'd refer you to  
10      Revised Exhibit No. 11.

11           Have you examined this exhibit and are you  
12      familiar with it?

13           MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

14           MR. CLAWSON: Can you please tell us what it is  
15      and what it shows?

16           MR. AHMAD: It also is an exhibit, shows the  
17      isopach, or the thickness of the producing reservoir  
18      underlying this section.

19           MR. CLAWSON: Can you please tell us what an  
20      "isopach" is?

21           MR. AHMAD: "Isopach" is the thickness of the  
22      reservoir itself. In this case, it's everything greater  
23      than five percent porosity.

24           MR. CLAWSON: And what is the source of the  
25      information for the map?

1                   MR. AHMAD:   The well logs from all the wells in  
2                   this area.

3                   MR. CLAWSON:   Does the map show a trace of a  
4                   cross section?

5                   MR. AHMAD:   Yes, it does.

6                   MR. CLAWSON:   Can you please tell us what that  
7                   is?

8                   MR. AHMAD:   It's A-A prime, which goes from the  
9                   south to the north in this section.

10                  MR. CLAWSON:   Is the Desert -- is the Desert --  
11                  well, first of all, why is this exhibit -- Revised  
12                  Exhibit 11 important?

13                  MR. AHMAD:   It's important in that it shows that  
14                  the reservoir itself underlies the northeast quarter of  
15                  Section 19.

16                  MR. CLAWSON:   Is the Desert Creek feature  
17                  beneath the subject lands an algal-mound like the Upper  
18                  Ismay feature?

19                  MR. AHMAD:   You know, I'm not really not too  
20                  sure about that.   Because the Desert Creek, when we tried  
21                  to build a structure map for that, it didn't come out the  
22                  same as -- how simple it was for the Upper Ismay.  It  
23                  could be, but I'm not exactly sure whether it is or not.

24                  MR. CLAWSON:   Could it be a carbonate buildup,  
25                  like indicated in Exhibit 20?

1                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is a carbonate buildup.

2                   MR. CLAWSON: Now I refer you to Revised

3                   Exhibit 13.

4                   Could you please -- have you examined this

5                   exhibit, and are you familiar with it?

6                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

7                   MR. CLAWSON: Could you please tell us what this

8                   exhibit is and why it's important?

9                   MR. AHMAD: It's also an isopach, which is the

10                  thickness of the reservoir rock within this section.

11                  MR. CLAWSON: And does it show the lateral

12                  extent of the Desert Creek feature beneath the subject

13                  lands?

14                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, it does.

15                  MR. CLAWSON: Now I would refer you to Revised

16                  Exhibit 14.

17                  Could you please tell us -- first of all, have

18                  you examined this exhibit and are you familiar with it?

19                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

20                  MR. CLAWSON: And could you please tell us what

21                  this exhibit is?

22                  MR. AHMAD: It's a cross section of the Upper

23                  Ismay.

24                  MR. CLAWSON: Why is it important?

25                  MR. AHMAD: This cross section shows the extent



1       of the reservoir rock within this area.

2               MR. CLAWSON: And does it go from south on the

3       left to north on the right?

4               MR. AHMAD: Yes.

5               MR. CLAWSON: How did you generate this cross

6       section?

7               MR. AHMAD: This cross section was generated

8       using well logs from the wells, which are on this map

9       itself.

10              MR. CLAWSON: On the previously structure and

11       isopach maps?

12              MR. AHMAD: Yes.

13              MR. CLAWSON: Now I'd refer you to revised

14       Exhibit 15.

15              Have you examined it and are you familiar with

16       this exhibit?

17              MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

18              MR. CLAWSON: Can you please tell us what this

19       exhibit is and why it's important?

20              MR. AHMAD: It's also a cross section generated

21       by well logs on the Desert Creek Formation, going from

22       the south to the north on the map.

23              MR. CLAWSON: And why is it important?

24              MR. AHMAD: This also gives you the extent of

25       the reservoir rock beneath the area.

1                   MR. CLAWSON: For the Desert Creek feature?

2                   MR. AHMAD: Yes.

3                   MR. CLAWSON: What is the nature of the

4                   reservoirs providing the production from the existing

5                   wells?

6                   MR. AHMAD: They're all producing from the

7                   fractures.

8                   MR. CLAWSON: In your expert opinion, did the

9                   Upper Ismay and Desert Creek spaced intervals, as

10                  described in the Request for Agency Action, constitute

11                  pools; or in other words, are they common in

12                  accumulations of hydrocarbons?

13                  MR. AHMAD: Yes.

14                  MR. CLAWSON: Are the pools acceptable to

15                  development by horizontal drilling methods as proposed by

16                  MAR/REG?

17                  MR. AHMAD: Yes.

18                  MR. CLAWSON: Are the pools in the Upper Ismay

19                  and Desert Creek spaced intervals separate and distinct

20                  pools?

21                  MR. AHMAD: Yes.

22                  MR. CLAWSON: And how do you know that?

23                  MR. AHMAD: From well logs.

24                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Clawson, can Mr. Gill ask

25                  one question on Exhibit 15 here?

1 MR. CLAWSON: Sure.

2 MR. GILL: I have a question on the left two

3 logs. Just clarification. Let's start with the left log

4 on Exhibit 15.

5 What's the producing zone there, and how wide is

6 that? It looks like it's about the -- it's the Desert

7 Creek Pay up to the Desert Creek, as is indicated on the

8 left side of that log? Is that correct?

9 MR. CLAWSON: Well -- can you say that again?

10 MR. GILL: If you look at that exhibit, there's

11 writing on the very left. It says "Desert Creek" at --

12 and then down to the "Desert Creek Pay." Is that the

13 producing zone?

14 MR. AHMAD: The Desert Creek Pay is, is a

15 producing zone.

16 MR. GILL: What I can't track is where that goes

17 to the next one. So where is it on the -- it's on the

18 second log from the left.

19 How wide is that producing zone?

20 MR. AHMAD: Oh, okay. In the 1-19?

21 MR. GILL: Yes. On the 1-19, I lose the lines.

22 MR. AHMAD: Okay. Maybe I can bring this up

23 there.

24 MR. GILL: Yes.

25 (The witness approached the Board.)

1 MR. GILL: I see. That makes it a lot easier.

2 (A discussion was held between the Board off the  
3 record.)

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Clawson, do you intend to  
5 enter these larger drawings of the --

6 MR. CLAWSON: We can and we will.

7 MR. GILL: What's the indicator on the log that  
8 you are using? Is it -- it doesn't show, does it, the --  
9 what kind of log is it?

10 MR. AHMAD: It's a porosity log.

11 MR. GILL: So you are using the porosity as

12 the --

13 MR. AHMAD: For the pay zone itself.

14 MR. GILL: Okay.

15 MR. AHMAD: In the Desert Creek, the production,  
16 when they drill their well -- on the resistivity log,  
17 when you looked at it, showed -- it indicated it was all  
18 wet. But wherever they had porosity, it ended up making  
19 oil with absolutely no water. So it was kind of an  
20 anomaly.

21 MR. GILL: On the Federal 1-18, which is the  
22 furthest right -- I can give you back your exhibit if you  
23 need it -- but it is the furthest right log. It shows  
24 some high porosity down in the lower part of that log.  
25 But you don't have that marked on the exhibit we're

1       looking at. Is that also productive?

2               MR. CLAWSON: In the Federal 1-18?

3               MR. GILL: 1-18.

4               MR. AHMAD: No, it wasn't.

5               MR. GILL: Okay.

6               CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Go ahead.

7               MR. CLAWSON: I'm betting those aren't marked as

8       exhibits.

9               CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Yes, they are. Exhibit 15

10       and Exhibit 14.

11              MR. CLAWSON: Revised?

12              CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Not revised.

13              MR. CLAWSON: Okay. If you'll just write

14       "Revised" on those, then I think that will be okay.

15              CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay.

16              MR. CLAWSON: They are the large exhibits, and I

17       don't think there's any -- we didn't introduce any large

18       exhibits in the previous hearing, so.

19              You know, the Board was having a discussion as I

20       went through a series of questions that are really

21       important for the record -- I wonder if I should go

22       back -- that these spaced intervals are pools susceptible

23       to horizontal drilling and that they are separate.

24              CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: If you think it's an

25       important point, go ahead and go through it again.

1           MR. CLAWSON: I think it's important enough that  
2 we should.

3           CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Go ahead.

4           MR. CLAWSON: I beg the Board's patience.

5           In your opinion, are the Upper Ismay and Desert  
6 Creek spaced intervals, as they are described in the  
7 Request for Agency Action, pools, or are they -- in other  
8 words, common accumulations of hydrocarbons?

9           MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

10          MR. CLAWSON: Are the pools susceptible to  
11 development by horizontal drilling methods as proposed by  
12 MAR/REG?

13          MR. AHMAD: Yes.

14          MR. CLAWSON: And are the pools in the Upper  
15 Ismay and Desert Creek spaced intervals separate and  
16 distinct pools?

17          MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

18          MR. CLAWSON: And how do you know that?

19          MR. AHMAD: From well logs.

20          MR. CLAWSON: Is 160-acre spacing appropriate  
21 for horizontal wells drilled in both of these formations?

22          MR. AHMAD: Yes.

23          MR. CLAWSON: Based on MAR/REG's request, will  
24 there be restrictions on where the proposed horizontal  
25 laterals can be located?

1                   MR. AHMAD: Yes. The laterals are no closer  
2                   than 1320 feet from other wells, with the exception of  
3                   the existing vertical wells, and no closer than 660 feet  
4                   from the outer boundary of the drilling unit.

5                   MR. CLAWSON: And we've already indicated on a  
6                   map where the surface location of the new well will be.  
7                   But can you give the footage?

8                   MR. AHMAD: Yes. It will be located 660 feet  
9                   from the east line, and 1980 feet from the north line.

10                  MR. CLAWSON: Have you prepared a volumetric  
11                  analysis for the laterals for the proposed well in the  
12                  spaced intervals beneath the subject lands?

13                  MR. AHMAD: Yes.

14                  MR. CLAWSON: I'd refer you to Revised Exhibit  
15                  No. 5.

16                  Can you please -- well, have you examined this  
17                  exhibit and are you familiar with it?

18                  MR. AHMAD: Yes.

19                  MR. CLAWSON: And can you please tell us what  
20                  this exhibit is and why it's important?

21                  MR. AHMAD: This exhibit gives the reservoir  
22                  properties that were used to calculate the oil-in-place  
23                  for both the Desert Creek and the Upper Ismay.

24                  MR. CLAWSON: Were these the parameters that  
25                  were used for the volumetric calculations for the

1 reserves in the Upper Ismay and Desert Creek?

2 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

3 MR. CLAWSON: Are the proposed spaced intervals  
4 fractured?

5 MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

6 MR. CLAWSON: What's the orientation of the  
7 fractures?

8 MR. AHMAD: I believe that the orientation is  
9 northeast-southwest.

10 MR. CLAWSON: And are the laterals designed to  
11 intersect those fractures?

12 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

13 MR. CLAWSON: Now I refer you to Revised Exhibit  
14 No. 6.

15 Are you familiar with and have you examined this  
16 exhibit?

17 MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

18 MR. CLAWSON: And what is this exhibit, and why  
19 is it important?

20 MR. AHMAD: This exhibit gives the volumetric  
21 calculations for the Upper Ismay and the Desert Creek  
22 Formations.

23 MR. CLAWSON: Can you please briefly tell us how  
24 you made that calculation?

25 MR. AHMAD: This calculation was made by, for



1 the Upper Ismay, using 25 feet as the thickness, porosity  
2 of 14.1 percent, water saturation of 40 percent, and the  
3 Boi of 1.45. The initial reservoir pressure was 2335  
4 psi.

5 And for the Desert Creek, a thickness of  
6 12 feet, porosity of 21 1/2, and water saturation of  
7 45 percent. And it showed a reservoir pressure of 2368,  
8 and 160-acre drainage.

9 MR. CLAWSON: What's the volume of the  
10 oil-in-place for each spaced interval?

11 MR. AHMAD: For the Ismay, we had  
12 1.8 million barrels. And for the Desert Creek, we had  
13 approximately 1 million barrels.

14 MR. CLAWSON: And so what are the total expected  
15 reserves?

16 MR. AHMAD: Total oil-in-place was 2.9 million  
17 barrels. The cumulative production from the two existing  
18 wells is about 349,000 barrels. The total recovery to  
19 date is about 12 percent. I used a 25 percent recovery  
20 factor for the recovery, giving us remaining reserves of  
21 about 377,000 barrels.

22 MR. CLAWSON: Now, I'd refer you to Revised  
23 Exhibits 8 and 9.

24 Have you examined these exhibits, and are you  
25 familiar with them?

1                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

2                   MR. CLAWSON: What are these exhibits and why

3                   are they important?

4                   MR. AHMAD: Eight and 9 are the decline curves

5                   and the production history for both the Federal 1-19 and

6                   the 3-19 wells.

7                   MR. CLAWSON: And did you use these to calculate

8                   the expected economic performance from the well?

9                   MR. AHMAD: I used these two exhibits to come up

10                  with the remaining reserves on the 1-19 and 3-19. And

11                  then using that, I backed into how much we would recover

12                  from the horizontal well.

13                  MR. CLAWSON: Will the vertical wells recover

14                  all of the remaining reserves?

15                  MR. AHMAD: No, they will not.

16                  MR. CLAWSON: So are the horizontal laterals

17                  warranted in that regard?

18                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, it is.

19                  MR. CLAWSON: Have you performed an economic

20                  analysis for the proposed horizontal laterals?

21                  MR. AHMAD: Yes, I have.

22                  MR. CLAWSON: Now I refer you to Revised Exhibit

23                  No. 7. Have you examined --

24                  MR. GILL: Before you leave 8, may I ask a

25                  question?

1                   CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Go ahead.

2                   MR. GILL: You've got a big jump in water

3                   production from about -- what is that? A line is marked

4                   with Xs and you've got a big jump in water production in

5                   there.

6                   MR. AHMAD: Which well?

7                   MR. GILL: Is there an explanation for that?

8                   We're on Exhibit 8, Revised Exhibit 8, and --

9                   MR. AHMAD: What happened here is in the Federal

10                  1-19, it was recompleted in the Upper Ismay from the

11                  Desert Creek. And then there are two holes in the

12                  casing, and that caused the water production to go up.

13                  And those holes were squeezed off a couple of

14                  times. And every time they squeeze it off, it came back

15                  on production. The water production dropped. But then

16                  it would, as soon as that cement job wasn't good, the

17                  water would come back in.

18                  MR. GILL: And is that water production salt

19                  water?

20                  MR. AHMAD: Yes.

21                  MR. GILL: Is there any fresh water?

22                  MR. AHMAD: No. No. It's salt water.

23                  MR. GILL: Thank you.

24                  MR. CLAWSON: So referring back to Revised

25                  Exhibit No. 7, have you examined this exhibit and are you

1 familiar with it?

2 MR. AHMAD: Yes, I am.

3 MR. CLAWSON: What is this exhibit? What does  
4 it show, and why is it important?

5 MR. AHMAD: This exhibit shows the economic  
6 analysis of drilling the horizontal well.

7 MR. CLAWSON: Can you please briefly describe  
8 the method that you used to conduct that economic  
9 analysis?

10 MR. AHMAD: Well, I used a -- generated a type  
11 curve to project what the production would be in the  
12 future for drilling a horizontal well. I used operating  
13 expenses of about \$2300 a month, oil price of \$61, and  
14 gas price of \$3, and came up with the remaining reserves  
15 of about 250,000 barrels for the horizontal well. This  
16 exhibit gives you future discounted cash flow of about  
17 \$6.3 million, and \$12 million undiscounted.

18 MR. CLAWSON: So is the pool in the Upper Ismay  
19 Formation and the pool in the Desert Creek Formation, are  
20 they economically attractive targets, based on the  
21 proposed 160-acre spacing for a horizontal lateral in  
22 each spaced interval?

23 MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are. We used a well cost  
24 of about \$2.8 million. Our return investment would be  
25 about 4.2 to 1 undiscounted, and 2.2 to 1 discounted at

1       ten percent.

2               MR. CLAWSON: In your expert opinion, based on  
3       the engineering and geologic information we reviewed this  
4       morning, what is the maximum area that can be efficiently  
5       and economically drained by a horizontal well completed  
6       in the proposed space intervals and the Upper Ismay and  
7       Desert Creek Formations?

8               MR. AHMAD: Approximately 160 acres.

9               MR. CLAWSON: In your opinion will, 160-acre  
10      spacing in the subject lands for both spaced intervals  
11      foster, encourage, and promote the development,  
12      production, and utilization of the oil and gas resources  
13      of the state?

14              MR. AHMAD: Yes, it would.

15              MR. CLAWSON: Will it prevent waste?

16              MR. AHMAD: Yes.

17              MR. CLAWSON: Will it provide for the greater  
18      ultimate recovery of oil and gas?

19              MR. AHMAD: Yes.

20              MR. CLAWSON: Will it protect correlative  
21      rights?

22              MR. AHMAD: Yes.

23              MR. CLAWSON: Sort of bookkeeping here. We've  
24      already entered Exhibits 1, 2, 3, 16, 17, and 18 in the  
25      record at the September 22 hearing.

1                   Now, I'll refer you to Exhibits 4, 20, and 21,  
2                   and Revised Exhibits 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15,  
3                   and 19.

4                   Are these exhibits business records in MAR/REG's  
5                   files, or were they prepared by MAR/REG in connection  
6                   with this proceeding or in the regular course of its  
7                   business activities?

8                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, they are.

9                   MR. CLAWSON: I'd now ask that Exhibits 4, 20,  
10                  21, Revised Exhibits 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15,  
11                  and 19 be admitted to the record.

12                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Donaldson?

13                  MR. DONALDSON: No objections.

14                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Does the Board have any  
15                  objections?

16                  Then those are admitted as you've requested.

17                  MR. CLAWSON: Thank you. That's the end of my  
18                  questions for my witness.

19                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Donaldson, do you have  
20                  questions?

21                  MR. DONALDSON: Our staff members do have some  
22                  questions for this witness.

23                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay.

24                                   CROSS-EXAMINATION

25                  BY MR. DWORSHAK:

1 MR. DWORSHAK: Clint Dworshak, compliance  
2 manager for the Oil and Gas.

3 I do have one question, and I'll refer to  
4 Revised Exhibit 13. That is the isopach for the Desert  
5 Creek. On there is the horizontal leg. However, since  
6 there's two laterals, will the lateral for the Ismay  
7 section be the same orientation?

8 MR. AHMAD: Approximately. They'll both be  
9 going northwest.

10 MR. DWORSHAK: Southeast-northwest?

11 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

12 MR. DWORSHAK: So it will pretty much trend the  
13 same as what's shown on the Desert Creek?

14 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

15 MR. DWORSHAK: Thank you.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. DOUCET:

18 MR. DOUCET: Dustin Doucet, petroleum engineer  
19 for the Division. I've got a couple questions starting  
20 on Revised Exhibit 6. I know you've got noted on there  
21 for your volumetric parameters where you got some of the  
22 information.

23 Where did you get most of that information, like  
24 the thickness, porosity, stuff like that?

25 MR. AHMAD: A lot of that was taken off cores,

1 as well as well logs.

2 MR. DOUCET: Okay. And those are well logs in  
3 the area, or are the wells in the subject lands? Or what  
4 well logs or what cores?

5 MR. AHMAD: The well logs for the wells in the  
6 field itself.

7 MR. DOUCET: In the field, okay.

8 Also down closer to the bottom of Exhibit 6,  
9 you've got a write-up that mentions that the horizontal  
10 well with the two -- I'm assuming that's the two  
11 horizontals -- will recover 248,000 barrels. Does that  
12 include both horizontal legs?

13 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

14 MR. DOUCET: Okay. So that's 248,000 there.  
15 And then on your economics on Exhibit 6, you've got --

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Seven?

17 MR. DOUCET: Seven, yeah. Sorry.

18 You've got that -- that would match out. That's  
19 the same, as well. 248,000 would be for both. That's  
20 accounting for both legs, right?

21 MR. AHMAD: Yes, it does.

22 MR. DOUCET: So the economics are for both?

23 MR. AHMAD: Yes.

24 MR. DOUCET: Okay. I think that's the only  
25 questions I have.



1 MR. DONALDSON: The Division has no more  
2 questions.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. The Board.  
4 Mr. Gill?

5 MR. GILL: Yes. This is a question for the  
6 staff.

7 In your September 18 -- or pardon me --  
8 September 13 memo to the Board, you mentioned that there  
9 was some information that was marginal in the exhibits.

10 Have the revised exhibits solved those to your  
11 satisfaction?

12 MR. HILL: This is Brad Hill for the Division.  
13 I believe they have satisfied that.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Mr. Harouny.

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. HAROUNY:

17 MR. HAROUNY: Mr. Ahmad, good to see you again.  
18 I have some questions for you.

19 The two horizontal legs, how are they situated  
20 and how are they completed?

21 MR. AHMAD: How will they be situated?

22 MR. HAROUNY: Umm-hmm.

23 MR. CLAWSON: We'll drill the Desert Creek  
24 horizontal first and then put a -- go up and put a bridge  
25 plug. And then drill with a whipstock and drill a

1 lateral.

2 MR. HAROUNY: How are they going to be  
3 completed?

4 MR. AHMAD: They're going to be open hole with a  
5 liner inside, slotted liner.

6 MR. HAROUNY: Are you planning on hydraulically  
7 fracturing either one?

8 MR. AHMAD: No. But we will acidize them.

9 MR. HAROUNY: So these are not going to be  
10 fractured to effectively --

11 MR. AHMAD: No.

12 MR. HAROUNY: -- cause any damage to the seal or  
13 anything?

14 MR. AHMAD: No, they will not be fractured.

15 MR. HAROUNY: Do you have any -- obviously, you  
16 are counting on fractures and fracture orientation to  
17 support your horizontal section.

18 Do you have any idea what the fracture  
19 orientation is in this quarter-quarter?

20 MR. AHMAD: Yeah, I think we said that earlier.  
21 There were -- the northeast-southwest were the -- how we  
22 believe the fractures are oriented. If we drill a  
23 northwest lateral, we should intersect them.

24 MR. HAROUNY: How did you determine the  
25 northeast-southwest orientation of the fractures?

1                   MR. AHMAD: I figured that if the structure  
2                   itself is oriented northwest-southeast, the stresses  
3                   would be on the top, and the stress level would fracture  
4                   them perpendicular to what the orientation of the  
5                   structure is itself.

6                   MR. HAROUNY: So your assessment as to this --  
7                   these fractures are all stress related and not load or  
8                   tension or anything?

9                   MR. AHMAD: Yes, I think so. And also we had --  
10                  we operate the Tin Cup field, which is about three miles  
11                  west of this field. And there we have a lot of pressure  
12                  data and pressure buildup from there, which is similar to  
13                  this. And we determined from the pressure data and the  
14                  interference testing how the fractures are oriented.

15                  MR. HAROUNY: So if the reservoir is fractured  
16                  and the orientation is northeast to southwest on the  
17                  fractures, have you determined the effect of all these  
18                  fractures on the water saturation calculations?

19                  MR. AHMAD: Well, the basic -- what you assume  
20                  is that your fractures would be filled with oil with your  
21                  residual water saturation. But your matrix is how you  
22                  determine your water saturations. But unless -- from the  
23                  cores that we received, they came up with about  
24                  40 percent water saturation in them. So I guess when we  
25                  finally drill, we'll find out what the real answer is. I

1 mean right now, we are just, you know, estimating what  
2 the numbers are.

3 MR. HAROUNY: Have you done any current analysis  
4 on the reservoir pressure, any P over C data?

5 MR. AHMAD: You can't do P over C data on oil  
6 wells. You can only do that on gas wells.

7 MR. HAROUNY: This doesn't have any gas at all?

8 MR. AHMAD: No.

9 MR. HAROUNY: But in the economics, you've  
10 got --

11 MR. AHMAD: There's some solution gas, but it's  
12 not a natural gas reservoir.

13 MR. HAROUNY: The last question I have for you,  
14 Mr. Ahmad, is: On your structure and isopach exhibits --  
15 I believe there's six, specifically Exhibit No. 10 and 11  
16 revised. Both are revised exhibits -- you have somewhat  
17 of an anomaly, if you will, regarding Well No. 20-1.  
18 Now, where you don't have that well included in your  
19 structure map and bypassed it, but yet it does have a  
20 good enough isopach, would you tell the Board what the  
21 reason for that is?

22 MR. AHMAD: Well, if you can look at those  
23 photographs of what an algal-mound looks like, they just  
24 happen to drop off at the edges, but you might have a  
25 little bit of thickness on the formation itself.

1                   But if you look at the map itself on the  
2                   structure map, I mean, I could have made another contour  
3                   going down at 380 feet, and you'd see that contour. If  
4                   you look at it, it will be way off to the bottom. Like  
5                   the 10-19 is minus 380 feet, and the 20-1 is minus 389.  
6                   So if you look at those photographs, they'll just come  
7                   off on the side and drop off, but they might have some  
8                   thickness there.

9                   MR. HAROUNY: So the representation of zero is  
10                  not probably -- on the isopach -- not an accurate  
11                  assessment at this point?

12                 MR. AHMAD: On the 20-1?

13                 MR. HAROUNY: On the whole entire isopach that  
14                  you have, Exhibit 11, Revised Exhibit No. 11. You have a  
15                  zero line. That zero line may be two feet, it may be  
16                  one.

17                 MR. AHMAD: I mean, that's just an educated  
18                  guess. I mean, it could be, like, way down south.

19                 MR. HAROUNY: So there may be some?

20                 MR. AHMAD: Right.

21                 MR. HAROUNY: I don't have any other questions.

22                 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Other questions from the  
23                  Board? No?

24                 Mr. Clawson.

25                 MR. CLAWSON: Well, that concludes our

1 presentation here today. I would just ask that the  
2 Board, in consideration of the September 22 hearing and  
3 today's hearing, that the Board would approve 160-acre  
4 spacing for a horizontal well in the subject lands, the  
5 northeast quarter of Subject Section 19 as requested.

6 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
7 Clawson.

8 Is there anyone else present who would like to  
9 address the Board regarding this matter?

10 I'm sorry. Mr. Donaldson, would you like to  
11 address this? Sorry about that.

12 MR. DONALDSON: Yes. In light of the testimony  
13 and exhibits that have been presented to the Board and to  
14 the Division, the Division has no objection to the  
15 proposed spacing as offered.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you.

17 I don't see anyone else coming forward, so we're  
18 going to take a break and deliberate on this matter.

19 When we return with a decision, we'd like to  
20 move into Agenda Item No. 8, which is the Westwater Farms  
21 matter. So if the parties for that matter can be ready  
22 to go when we return.

23 Thank you very much. We'll go off the record  
24 now.

25 MR. JENSEN: Hold on just a minute.

1                   CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Let's go back on the record.  
2                   Mr. Jensen.  
3                   MR. JENSEN: I move that the request of Mr.  
4                   Clawson and his client be approved, and that Mr. Clawson  
5                   be asked to prepare an appropriate Order and review it  
6                   with the Division and with our counsel and get it ready  
7                   for signature.  
8                   CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Is there a second?  
9                   MR. QUIGLEY: I'll second that motion.  
10                  MR. GILL: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to let the  
11                  record show that I will exercise my request to be recused  
12                  from this matter.  
13                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay.  
14                  MR. GILL: I did not vote on that motion.  
15                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay.  
16                  Any other discussion on the motion? Okay.  
17                  All those in favor of approving the request, say  
18                  "Aye."  
19                  MR. PAYNE, MR. QUIGLEY, CHAIRMAN JOHNSON,  
20                  MR. HAROUNY, MR. JENSEN: Aye.  
21                  CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Is there anyone opposed?  
22                  So let the record show that vote was five in  
23                  favor and Mr. Gill abstained, and that, Mr. Clawson,  
24                  you'll prepare the Order.  
25                  MR. CLAWSON: I will. Thank you very much.

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CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you. Let's take  
a ten-minute break until 10:40. Then we'll resume with  
Agenda Item No. 8.

(The matter was concluded at 10:29 a.m.)



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Michelle Mallonee, RPR, CSR